

REMARKS

Claims 34-53 are pending in this application.

Claims 34-38, 40-47, and 50-52 are amended herein to recite the invention somewhat differently.

No new matter is added by this Supplemental Preliminary Amendment.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and an early indication of the same is courteously solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at the below listed local telephone number, in order to expedite resolution of any remaining issues and further to expedite passage of the application to issue, if any further comments, questions or suggestions arise in connection with the application.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

By: _____

Alfred A. STADNICKI

Registration No. 30,226

AAS:SWC:dmw

1300 North Seventeenth Street
Suite 1800
Arlington, VA 22209

(703) 312-6600 - Telephone
(703) 312-6666 - Fax
astadnicki@antonelli.com

Date: March 28, 2002

APPENDIX OF AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS
(DELETIONS IN BRACKETS AND ADDITIONS UNDERLINED)

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 34-38, 40-47, and 50-52 as follows:

34. A method for presenting [a bill] billing information via a network, comprising:

transmitting a notice according to an e-mail protocol, via a network, indicating availability of [a bill] billing information;

transmitting a request according to a protocol other than an e-mail protocol, via the network, to receive the [bill] billing information responsive to receipt of the notice; and

transmitting at least a portion of the [bill] billing information, via the network, responsive to receipt of the request.

35. The method of claim 34, further comprising:

formatting the [bill] billing information for presentation responsive to receipt of the request.

36. The method of claim 34, further comprising:

formatting the [bill] billing information for presentation prior to transmitting the notice; and

storing the formatted [bill] billing information;

wherein the transmitted [bill] billing information is the stored formatted [bill] billing information.

37. The method of claim 34, wherein the notice includes information indicating a location of the available [bill] billing information on the network.

38. The method of claim 37, wherein the information indicating a location of the available [bill] billing information is a hyper-link, further comprising:

selecting the hyper-link to transmit the request.

40. A method for presenting [a bill] billing information, comprising:

transmitting, via a network, an e-mail notice indicating availability of [a bill] billing information;

transmitting, via the network, an e-mail request to receive the [bill] billing information responsive to receipt of the notice; and

transmitting, via the network, at least a portion of the [bill] billing information responsive to receipt of the request.

41. The method of claim 40, further comprising:

formatting the [bill] billing information for presentation responsive to receipt of the request.

42. The method of claim 40, further comprising:

formatting the [bill] billing information for presentation prior to transmitting the notice; and

storing the formatted [bill] billing information;

wherein the transmitted [bill] billing information is the stored formatted [bill] billing information.

43. A method for presenting [a bill] billing information, comprising:

transmitting, via a network, a notice indicating availability of [a bill] billing information, the notice transmitted according to a network protocol other than e-mail;

transmitting, via the network, a request to receive the [bill] billing information responsive to receipt of the

notice, the request also transmitted according to a network protocol other than e-mail; and

transmitting, via the network, at least a portion of the [bill] billing information responsive to receipt of the request.

44. The method of claim 43, further comprising:

formatting the [bill] billing information for presentation responsive to receipt of the request.

45. The method of claim 43, further comprising:

formatting the [bill] billing information for presentation prior to transmitting the notice; and

storing the formatted [bill] billing information;

wherein the transmitted [bill] billing information is the stored formatted [bill] billing information.

46. The method of claim 43, wherein the notice includes information indicating a location of the available [bill] billing information on the network.

47. The method of claim 46, wherein the information indicating a location of the available [bill] billing information is a hyper-link, further comprising:

selecting the hyper-link to transmit the request.

50. A bill presentment network, comprising:

a first network server configured to transmit, via an e-mail protocol, a notice to a payer indicating availability of [a bill] billing information; and

a second network server configured to receive from the payer, via a protocol other than an e-mail protocol, a request to receive the [bill] billing information, the request transmitted responsive to receipt of the notice;

wherein at least a portion of the [bill] billing information is transmitted to the payer responsive to receipt of the request.

51. An system for bill presentment, comprising:
a memory configured to store billing information; and
a processor configured to transmit a notice to a payer via e-mail indicating availability of [a bill] billing information and to receive a request from the payer via e-mail for the available [bill] billing information;

wherein the request is transmitted responsive to receipt of the notice; and

wherein at least a portion of the [bill] billing information is transmitted to the payer responsive to receipt of the request.

52. A system for bill presentment, comprising:
a memory configured to store billing information; and
at least one processor configured to transmit, via a network protocol other than an e-mail protocol, a notice to a payer indicating availability of a bill, and to receive a request, also via a network protocol other than an e-mail protocol, from the payer to receive the bill;

wherein the request is transmitted responsive to receipt of the notice; and

wherein [the bill] at least a portion of the billing information is transmitted to the payer responsive to receipt of the request.